awareness, expanding counseling and testing services, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and mainstreaming of HIV intervention strategies are being implemented for the prevention of new infections.

Donations for medical admissions

†1602. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that several medical colleges are giving admissions to students by taking money;

(b) whether the police have received several complaints in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prevent such fraud in admissions in medical colleges; and

(d) the details of States from where admissions have been given to students by the Department of Health and Family Planning by taking money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14.8.2003 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education Vs. State of Karnataka & Others and Judgement dated 12.8.2005 in the case of P.A. Inamdar & Ors. Vs. State of Maharashtra and Ors., with a view to check capitation fee and profiteering in institutions, had given directions to the State Governments to constitute Fee Structuring Committees as per the scheme envolved by the Hon'ble Court. The fees so fixed by such Committees are to be charged from the students by the colleges for the period as may be fixed by the Committee from time to time. Any violation in charging of fee is to be looked after by the concerned state Governments.

Sale of G.M. foods without proper labelling

1603. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that G.M. food products which are health hazardous for consumers are being sold in the market without labelling;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government in regard thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has deferred the issue of Notification regulating the labeling of G.M. food products which was finalized after detailed discussion by expert group; and

(d) if so, the specific reasons for withholding the issue of the Notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The manufacture, use, import

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and storage of hazardous microorganisms/genetically engineered organisms or cells are regulated as per the **Rules for the manufacture, Use, Import and Storage of hazardous Microorganism/Genetically Engineered organisms or Cells, 1989**, notified under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986. As per the provisions under these rules, food stuffs, ingredients in food stuffs and additives including processing aids containing or consisting of genetically engineered organisms or cells shall not be produced, sold, imported or used except with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee, constituted by the Ministry of environment & Forests. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) set up as per the rules framed under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986 has permitted the import of GM soyabean oil from round up ready soybean. No other G.M. Food Products have been approved by GEAC.

(c) and (d) A draft notification for labelling of Genetically Modified Foods/ingredients under PFA Rules, 1955 was published vide GSR No. 152(E) dated 10.3.2006 for inviting objections and suggestions from the public. In view of divergent comments received from various stakeholders with regard to the implementation of the certain provisions of the proposed amendment rules the finalization of notification was kept in abeyance. The provisions to regulate Genetically Modified Foods will be taken up by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India which is being set up under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006.

World Bank assistance for health programme

1604. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank had provided assistance worth 300 million dollars for health sector programme to different States during the period, 1997-2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount received by each State for implementing the programme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the World bank in its report has recently alleged that former Orissa Health Minister and other official received kickbacks to facilitate the payment of Rs. 2.50 million, in non-bank fund invoices and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The details of World Bank assistance for health sector programmes to different states during the period 1997-2003 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) With regard to alleged kickbacks to former Orissa health Minister and other officials, it is stated that the Detailed Information Report of the World Bank indicated that a firm has admitted paying INR 500,000 (USD 11,000) to the Orissa State Minister of Health and other ministry officials to facilitate the payment of INR 2.5 million (USD 55,500) in non-Bank funded invoices. The Government of India has taken up this matter with the State Government and the Government of Orissa has entrusted this matter for investigation to its